MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Is there any exemption with regard to examination qualifications as far as Pulayas, Parayas and Kuravas are concerned ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): No.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know how many applications were received for the post of petty officers from these communities ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : I cannot say definitely without notice.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : What I wish to know is whether the member could say the number of applications from duly qualified candidates among these communitiss that were received and rejected.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The number rejected cannot be high because there were not many applications.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Then may I know how many applications were received ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I claim notice.

Alleppey-Ariyad Munro Light Road.

87. *MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have received recommendations from the Alleppey Chamber of Commerce and the Travancore Chamber of Commerce regarding the construction of the Alleppey-Ariyad Munro Light Road ;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether they have taken any and what action in the matter ;

(*c*) whether any estimate and plan have been prepared for the proposed road ; and

(*d*) if so, the amount estimated ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes. The Chief Engineer has been asked to submit a regular estimate for the work.

(*c*) Plans and estimate are under preparation.

(*d*) This does not arise.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*) : May I know the date on which orders were passed for the preparation of the estimate and plan for this road ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : 25-6-1935.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*) : May I know the further time required for the preparation of the plan ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) . I claim notice.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): May I know whether the work in connection with that road will be taken up soon ?

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MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): There is no allotment for that road in the budget for this year.

Use of the dip-rod in the weighment of cocoanut oil at the Arukutty Chowkey.

88. MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether dip-rod is now very freely used at the Arukutty Chowkey to ascertain the weight of cocoanut oil;

(*b*) if so, whether that is a sure test of measuring the contents of the barrel; and

(*c*) how the tare of these barrels is ascertained?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) It has been found in actual practice to be a reliable test though not so sure a test as actual weighment.

(*c*) when the dip-rod is used, the necessity for ascertaining the tare of barrels does not arise.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): With referrence to the answer to part (*a*), may I know whether the cargo in actually weighed?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Oil in small quantities is actually weighed; but not oil filled in big drums and casks.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): May I know from the member whether big drums and casks are actually landed now in practice?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): No, Sir.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): May I know from the member whether the actual weight can be ascertained unless they are landed?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The weight of barrels is ascertained by the use of the dip-rod and it has been found to be more or less correct, the variation being very little.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): Is there not a crane and platform erected for the landing of the cargo?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): That is not for landing but for weighing big casks.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): May I know from the member whether that is in use now?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): It is not in use now.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): May I know why?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): That is a long story. I was told that there were, series of questions about it yesterday. The platform was constructed five or six years back. As soon as it was constructed the then Excise Commissioner wanted a notification to be published requiring the weight of the empty barrels to be

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